

I am concerned and appalled that a broadcaster (Pappas Telecasting Companies), using the public airways, is giving a 'donation' of \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas. Once again, a powerful media group is abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves.

Local interests and fairness are not served when a corporate headquarters decides to provide one side in local elections a louder voice than others. During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time.

Broadcasters like Pappas use the public airwaves free of charge and are obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions here are legally questionable. They show that Pappas does not truly intend to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than just a returned postcard. Thank you.